

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 049153
ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-11 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSF-01
OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 /173 R

DRAFTED BY S/AR:AGJAMES/MW
APPROVED BY S/AR:ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
NEA/INS:JMALLOT (DRAFT)
S/AR:GHALDRICH(INFO)
D/LOS:ADBERLIND (INFO)

-----029934 250014Z /15

O R 250003Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 049153

FOR AMBASSADOR WRIGGINS FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS - PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE

REF: STATE 48595

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SEEKING THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE
APPOINTMENT WITH JAYEWARDENE TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 049153

DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL AND REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OF HIS
DECISION NOT TO ATTACH AMERASINGHE TO SRI LANKAN LOS DELE-
GATION.

2. FYI: IN VIEW OF THE LONG CATALOG OF REQUESTS THE GSL
HAS MADE AND IS MAKING OF THE UNITED STATES AND PARTICULARLY
THEIR SOLICITATION OF OUR SUPPORT FOR CANDIDACY OF HARRY

JAYEWARDENE FOR A UN HUMAN RIGHTS SUBCOMMISSION POST, WE THINK WE ARE MORE THAN JUSTIFIED IN URGING GSL TO RECONSIDER THEIR DECISION NOT TO ATTACH AMERASINGHE TO THEIR LOS DELEGATION. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO CONDITION OUR SUPPORT OF HARRY JAYEWARDENE AND/OR US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ON THE CONTINUATION OF AMERASINGHE, BUT WE WISH YOU TO CONVEY TO JAYEWARDENE IN THE MANNER YOU DEEM MOST EFFECTIVE THAT WE ARE NOT INDIFFERENT TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SERIES OF GSL REQUESTS AND OUR HOPE THAT THE GSL WILL TAKE THE REALLY VERY SIMPLE AND LIMITED STEP OF MAKING AMERASINGHE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THEIR LOS DELEGATION. END FYI

3. IN MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION TO JAYEWARDENE WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

--WE APPRECIATE THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA'S HAVING COMMUNICATED ITS NON-OBJECTION TO AMERASINGHE CONTINUING AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT IN AN INDEPENDENT CAPACITY. WE HAD EVERY REASON TO HOPE THAT THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR HIS CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT. INDEED, FOUR OF THE FIVE REGIONAL GROUPS OF THE CONFERENCE FOUND THIS DECISION SUFFICIENT; ONLY THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP FELT IT WAS NOT. THEIR OPPOSITION, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS UNDESIRABLE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF A UN CONFERENCE NOT TO BE A MEMBER OF A NATIONAL DELEGATION, WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO BLOCK AMERASINGHE CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT UNLESS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 049153

AMERASINGHE SHOULD BE GIVEN SOME STATUS ON THE GSL LOS DELEGATION.

--THE FOREGOING DEVELOPMENT WARRANTS, IN THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, OUR RAISING AGAIN WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA THE ISSUE OF AMERASINGHE BEING ATTACHED IN SOME MANNER TO ITS LOS DELEGATION.

-- AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION WOULD APPEAR TO BE TO MAKE AMERASINGHE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE GSL DELEGATION BUT THAT, OF COURSE, IS A MATTER FOR THE GSL TO DECIDE.

-- IN URGING THE GSL TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION, IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE NOT ACTING SOLELY OUT OF CONCERN FOR US NATIONAL INTERESTS. THIS MATTER, IN OUR VIEW, TRANSCENDS OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH IN LIGHT OF THE POSITIVE TREND IN US-SRI LANKA RELATIONS, AND OUR HOPE THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR THIS TREND TO CONTINUE, WE TRUST THE GSL WILL CAREFULLY AND FAVORABLY CONSIDER OUR PRESENTATION.

-- AS WE HAVE NOTED IN THE PAST TO THE GSL, AMERASINGHE'S

CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT IS IMPORTANT TO THE SMOOTH FUNCTION-
ING OF THE CONFERENCE. ALL MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE AGREE
ON THIS, EVEN THE LATIN GROUP WHOSE OBJECTION RESTS ON
THE FACT THAT HE WILL NOT BE A MEMBER OF A NATIONAL DELE-
GATION. FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CONFERENCE TO BECOME AN
ISSUE WITH ONLY A MONTH BEFORE THE CONFERENCE RESUMES
ITS WORK WOULD INTRODUCE A DANGEROUS ELEMENT OF UNCERTAIN-
TY WHICH COULD DISTRACT THE CONFERENCE FROM COMING QUICKLY
TO GRIPS WITH THE MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES BEFORE IT,
AND COULD SPELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SUCCESSFUL AND
UNPRODUCTIVE SEVENTH SESSION.

-- YOU MAY SAY THAT YOU ARE MAKING THIS PRESENTATION IN
THE SPIRIT OF THE CLOSE COOPERATION WHICH PRESIDENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 049153

CARTER HOPES WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP BETWEEN OUR TWO
COUNTRIES AND THAT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO A WAY BEING FOUND WHICH
WILL PERMIT AMERASINGHE TO CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE HIS
DUTIES AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.

4. FOR -ONDON: YOU MAY INFORM ARCULUS OF FOREGOING.

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 049153
ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 /020 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/AR:AGJAMES

APPROVED BY:S/AR:AGJAMES

-----072596 011107Z /15

R 282230Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 6464

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 049153

FOR AMBASSADOR BREWSTER

FOL STATE 049153 SENT ACTION COLOMBO INFO GENEVA LONDON
USUN FEB 25, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 049153

FOR AMBASSADOR WRIGGINS FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS - PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE

REF: STATE 48595

1. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SEEKING THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT WITH JAYEWARDENE TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION DESCRIBED IN REFTEL AND REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OF HIS DECISION NOT TO ATTACH AMERASINGHE TO SRI LANKAN LOS DELEGATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 049153

2. FYI: IN VIEW OF THE LONG CATALOG OF REQUESTS THE GSL HAS MADE AND IS MAKING OF THE UNITED STATES AND PARTICULARLY THEIR SOLICITATION OF OUR SUPPORT FOR CANDIDACY OF HARRY JAYEWARDENE FOR A UN HUMAN RIGHTS SUBCOMMISSION POST, WE THINK WE ARE MORE THAN JUSTIFIED IN URGING GSL TO RECONSIDER THEIR DECISION NOT TO ATTACH AMERASINGHE TO THEIR LOS DELEGATION. WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT WISH TO CONDITION OUR SUPPORT OF HARRY JAYEWARDENE AND/OR US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE ON THE CONTINUATION OF AMERASINGHE, BUT WE WISH YOU TO CONVEY TO JAYEWARDENE IN THE MANNER YOU DEEM MOST EFFECTIVE THAT WE ARE NOT INDIFFERENT TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SERIES OF GSL REQUESTS AND OUR HOPE THAT THE GSL WILL TAKE THE REALLY VERY SIMPLE AND LIMITED STEP OF MAKING AMERASINGHE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THEIR LOS DELEGATION. END FYI

3. IN MAKING YOUR PRESENTATION TO JAYEWARDENE WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO DRAW ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

--WE APPRECIATE THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA'S HAVING COMMUNICATED ITS NON-OBJECTION TO AMERASINGHE CONTINUING AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT IN AN INDEPENDENT CAPACITY. WE HAD EVERY REASON TO HOPE THAT THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT TO CLEAR THE WAY FOR HIS CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT. INDEED, FOUR OF THE FIVE REGIONAL GROUPS OF THE CONFERENCE FOUND THIS DECISION SUFFICIENT; ONLY THE

LATIN AMERICAN GROUP FELT IT WAS NOT. THEIR OPPOSITION, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND IS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT IT IS UNDESIRABLE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF A UN CONFERENCE NOT TO BE A MEMBER OF A NATIONAL DELEGATION, WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO BLOCK AMERASINGHE CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT UNLESS AMERASINGHE SHOULD BE GIVEN SOME STATUS ON THE GSL LOS DELEGATION.

--THE FOREGOING DEVELOPMENT WARRANTS, IN THE VIEW OF THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 049153

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, OUR RAISING AGAIN WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA THE ISSUE OF AMERASINGHE BEING ATTACHED IN SOME MANNER TO ITS LOS DELEGATION.

-- AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION WOULD APPEAR TO BE TO MAKE AMERASINGHE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE GSL DELEGATION BUT THAT, OF COURSE, IS A MATTER FOR THE GSL TO DECIDE.

-- IN URGING THE GSL TO RECONSIDER ITS DECISION, IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE NOT ACTING SOLELY OUT OF CONCERN FOR US NATIONAL INTERESTS. THIS MATTER, IN OUR VIEW, TRANSCENDS OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH IN LIGHT OF THE POSITIVE TREND IN US-SRI LANKA RELATIONS, AND OUR HOPE THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR THIS TREND TO CONTINUE, WE TRUST THE GSL WILL CAREFULLY AND FAVORABLY CONSIDER OUR PRESENTATION.

-- AS WE HAVE NOTED IN THE PAST TO THE GSL, AMERASINGHE'S CONTINUING AS PRESIDENT IS IMPORTANT TO THE SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF THE CONFERENCE. ALL MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE AGREE ON THIS, EVEN THE LATIN GROUP WHOSE OBJECTION RESTS ON THE FACT THAT HE WILL NOT BE A MEMBER OF A NATIONAL DELEGATION. FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CONFERENCE TO BECOME AN ISSUE WITH ONLY A MONTH BEFORE THE CONFERENCE RESUMES ITS WORK WOULD INTRODUCE A DANGEROUS ELEMENT OF UNCERTAINTY WHICH COULD DISTRACT THE CONFERENCE FROM COMING QUICKLY TO GRIPS WITH THE MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES BEFORE IT, AND COULD SPELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SUCCESSFUL AND UNPRODUCTIVE SEVENTH SESSION.

-- YOU MAY SAY THAT YOU ARE MAKING THIS PRESENTATION IN THE SPIRIT OF THE CLOSE COOPERATION WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER HOPES WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND THAT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO A WAY BEING FOUND WHICH WILL PERMIT AMERASINGHE TO CONTINUE TO DISCHARGE HIS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 049153

DUTIES AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT.

4. FOR -ONDON: YOU MAY INFORM ARCULUS OF FOREGOING.
VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, LAW OF THE SEA, NEGOTIATIONS, POSITION AUTHORIZATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE049153
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AGJAMES/MW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780086-1083
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780212/aaaaakcc.tel
Line Count: 285
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e596b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 48595
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3473862
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS - PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE
TAGS: PLOS, PORG, CE, (AMERASINGHE, HAMILTON SHIRLEY)
To: COLOMBO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e596b5cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014